

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for detecting an annotated anchor in a document, comprising:
 2. a first code for locating an annotation in the document; and,
 3. a second code for detecting, proximate to or within the annotation, the presence of an anchor.
1. 2. The system of claim 1 wherein said second code detects an anchor which represents an explicit link to at least one other location.
1. 3. The system of claim 1 wherein said second code detects an anchor which represents an implicit link to at least one other location.
1. 4. The system of claim 1 further including a data structure referencing said annotated anchor.
1. 5. The system of claim 1 further including a third code for processing said annotated anchor.
1. 6. The system of claim 5 wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes generating a data structure including said annotated anchor.
1. 7. The system of claim 6 wherein said data structure includes a plurality of

2 annotated anchors.

1 8. The system of claim 7 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors are
2 obtained from at least one document.

1 9. The system of claim 7 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors in said
2 data structure are displayed in a format.

1 10. The system of claim 9 wherein said format includes displaying said
2 annotated anchors according to annotation metadata.

1 11. The system of claim 9 wherein said format includes displaying said
2 annotated anchors according to annotated anchor metadata.

1 12. The system of claim 11 wherein said annotated anchors each represent a
2 link to at least one target; and wherein said annotated anchor metadata includes a
3 number of anchors within said document representing said target.

1 13. The system of claim 11 wherein said annotated anchors each represent a
2 link to at least one target; and wherein said annotated anchor metadata includes a
3 number of annotated anchors representing said target.

1 14. The system of claim 9 wherein said annotated anchors each represent a link

2 to at least one target; and wherein said format includes displaying said annotated
3 anchors according to target metadata.

1 15. The system of claim 14 wherein said target is a second document.

1 16. The system of claim 5 wherein said third code for processing said annotated
2 anchor includes adding said annotated anchor to a data structure based on at least
3 one attribute value.

1 17. The system of claim 16 wherein said data structure includes a plurality of
2 annotated anchors which have said at least one attribute value.

1 18. The system of claim 17 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors are
2 obtained from a plurality of documents.

1 19. The system of claim 17 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors in said
2 data structure are displayed in a format.

1 20. The system of claim 19 wherein said format includes displaying said
2 annotated anchors according to annotation metadata.

1 21. The system of claim 19 wherein said format includes displaying said
2 annotated anchors according to annotated anchor metadata.

1 22. The system of claim 19 wherein said annotated anchors each represent a
2 link to at least one target; and wherein said format includes displaying said
3 annotated anchors according to target metadata.

1 23. The system of claim 22 wherein said target is a second document.

1 24. The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at
2 least a first target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor
3 includes locating a second document which includes a reference to said first target.

1 25. The system of claim 24 wherein said document contains a second annotated
2 anchor representing a link to at least a second target; and wherein said third code
3 for processing said annotated anchor includes locating at least a second document
4 which includes a reference to said first and second targets.

1 26. The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at
2 least a second document; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated
3 anchor includes obtaining said second document.

1 27. The system of claim 26 wherein said second document is obtained prior to
2 a reader requesting said second document.

1 28. The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at
2 least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor
3 includes detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and
4 propagating said annotation to said second anchor.

1 29. The system of claim 28 wherein said second anchor is within said
2 document.

1 30. The system of claim 28 wherein said second anchor is within a second
2 document.

1 31. The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at
2 least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor
3 includes detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and
4 suppressing a display of said second anchor.

1 32. The system of claim 31 wherein said second anchor is within said
2 document.

1 33. The system of claim 31 wherein said second anchor is within a second
2 document.

1 34. The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at

2 least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor
3 includes identifying, in a hypertext structure, a node representing said target; and
4 propagating said annotation to said node.

1 35. The system of claim 34 wherein said code for processing includes
2 identifying, in said hypertext structure, a connecting object representing said link,
3 and altering said connecting object.

1 36. The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at
2 least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor
3 includes identifying, in a hypertext structure, a node representing said target; and
4 suppressing a display of said node.

1 37. The system of claim 36 wherein said third code for processing said
2 annotated anchor includes identifying, in said hypertext structure, an object
3 representing said link and suppressing a display of said object.

1 38. The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at
2 least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor
3 includes displaying said annotated anchor and said target.

1 39. A method for detecting and processing a plurality of annotated anchors in a
2 plurality of documents, comprising the steps of:

3 (a) locating an annotation in a document;

4 (b) detecting, proximate to or within the annotation, the presence of an

5 anchor;

6 (c) processing the annotated anchor; and,

7 (d) repeating steps (a) – (c) for each annotation in the plurality of

8 documents.

1 40. The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:

2 adding the annotated anchor to a data structure of annotated anchors; and,
3 displaying the data structure of annotated anchors.

1 41. The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:

2 adding annotated anchors including at least one selected attribute to a data
3 structure; and,

1 42. The method of claim 39 wherein said annotated anchors each represent a
2 link to at least one target; and wherein step (c) includes the step of:
3 locating at least a second document which includes a reference to at least
4 one of said targets.

1 43. The method of claim 39 wherein at least one of said annotated anchors
2 represent a link to a second document; and wherein step (c) includes the steps of:

3 determining whether said second document is stored in said system; and
4 obtaining said second document if not already stored.

1 44. The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:
2 determining a target of said annotated anchor;
3 detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and,
4 propagating said annotation to said second anchor.

1 45. The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:
2 determining a target of said annotated anchor;
3 detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and,
4 suppressing a display of said second anchor.

1 46. The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:
2 determining a target of said annotated anchor;
3 detecting a node, in a hypertext structure, representing said target; and,
4 propagating said annotation to said node.

1 47. The method of claim 46 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to
2 said target; and wherein step (c) further includes the steps of:
3 detecting an object, in said hypertext structure, representing said link; and,
4 altering said object.

1 48. The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:
2 determining a target of said annotated anchor;
3 detecting a node, in a hypertext structure, representing said target; and,
4 suppressing said node.

1 49. The method of claim 48 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to
2 said target; and wherein step (c) further includes the steps of:
3 detecting an object, in the hypertext structure, representing said link; and,
4 suppressing the display of said object.

1 50. The method of claim 39 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to
2 at least one target; and wherein step (c) includes the step of:
3 displaying simultaneously, said annotated anchor and said target.

1 51. An apparatus for detecting at least one annotated anchor in a document
2 comprising:
3 a processor;
4 a processor readable storage medium in communication with the processor,
5 containing processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:
6 detect each annotation in the document;
7 detect, proximate to or within each annotation, the presence of an anchor;
8 and,
9 generate a data structure including each annotated anchor.

1 52. The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program
2 code for programming the apparatus to:

3 filter the data structure to include only annotated anchors which contain at
4 least one selected attribute.

1 53. The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program
2 code for programming the apparatus to:

3 locate a second document containing a reference to at least one of said
4 annotated anchors included in said data structure.

1 54. The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program
2 code for programming the apparatus to:

3 determine a target document for each annotated anchor included in said
4 data structure;

5 identify whether the target document is stored within the apparatus;
6 obtain a copy of the target document if not stored.

1 55. The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program
2 code for programming the apparatus to:

3 determine a target document for said annotated anchor;

4 identify additional anchors which represent a link to said target document;
5 and

6 propagate said annotation to said identified additional anchors.

1 56. The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program
2 code for programming the apparatus to:

3 determine a target for said annotated anchor;
4 identify, in a hypertext structure, a node representing said target; and
5 propagate said annotation to said node.

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